CONFERENCE OF THE COMMITTEE ON DISARMAMENT

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ENGLISH

FINAL VERBATIM RECORD OF THE FOUR HUNDRED AND THIRTY-EIGHTH MEETING

held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva,
on Tuesday, 23 September 1969, at 10.30 a.m.

Chairman: Mr. M.A. HUSAIN (India)

(Previous verbatim records in this series appeared under the symbols ENDC/PV.1-ENDC/PV.430)

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PRESENT AT THE TABLE

Argentina:	Mr. C. ORTIZ de ROZAS
	Mr. A.F. DUMONT
Brazil:	Mr. S.A. FRAZAO
	Mr. L.F. PALMEIRA LAMPREIA
	Mr. M. DARCY de OLIVEIRA
Bulgaria:	Mr. K. CHRISTOV
	Mr. M. KARASSIMEONOV
	Mr. I. PEINIRDJIEV
Burma:	U KYAW MIN
Canada:	Mr. G. IGNATIEFF
	Mr. J.R. MORDEN
Czechoslovakia:	Mr. T. LAHODA
	Mr. M. VEJVODA
	Mr. J. CINGROS
Ethiopia:	Mr. A. ZELLEKE
Hungary:	Mr. I. KOMIVES
	Mr. I. SARKADI
	Mr. S. HAJNAL
India:	Mr. M.A. HUSAIN
	Mr. N. KRISHNAN
	Mr. K.P. JAIN
Italy:	Mr. F.L. OTTIERI
	Mr. R. BORSARELLI
	Mr. U. PESTALOZZA

Japan:	Mr. K. ASAKAI
	Mr. Y. NAKAYAMA
	Mr. T. SENGOKU
	Mr. J. SAKAMOTO
Mexico:	Miss E. AGUIRRE
Mongolia:	Mr. M. DUGERSUREN
Morocco:	Mr. A.A. KHATTABI
Netherlands:	Mr. E. BOS
Nigeria:	Mr. C.O. HOLLIST
Pakistan:	Mr. K. AHMED
Poland:	Mr. A. CZARKOWSKI
	Mr. H. STEPOSZ
	Mr. R. WLAZLO
Romania:	Mr. N. ECOBESCO
	Mr. A. SASU
Sweden:	Mr. A. EDELSTAM
	Mr. R. BOMAN
Union of Soviet Socialist Republics:	Mr. A.A. ROSHCHIN
	Mr. R.M. TIMERBAEV
	Mr. V.B. TOULINOV
	Mr. Y.C. NAZARKINE
United Arab Republic:	Mr. H. KHALLAF
	Mr. O. SIRRY
	Mr. Y. RIZK
	Mr. M. ISMAIL

United Kingdom:	Mr. I.F. PORTER
	Mr. W.N. HILLIER-FRY
	Mr. R.I.T. CROMARTIE
United States of America:	Mr. J.F. LEONARD
	Mr. A.F. NEIDLE
	Mr. W. GIVAN
	Mr. R.L. McCORMACK
Yugoslavia:	Mr. M. VUKOVIC
Special Representative of the Secretary-General:	Mr. D. PROTITCH
Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary-General:	Mr. W. EPSTEIN

1. The CHAIRMAN (India): I declare open the 438th plenary meeting of the Committee on Disarmament.

2. I have no names inscribed on my list of speakers for today. Does any representative wish to speak?

3. Mr. IGNATIEFF (Canada): I should like to raise a query if I may, in view of the fact that there does not seem to be any other speaker.

4. As a number of delegations will be aware, I think, a very important proposal (A/7655) was tabled in the General Assembly of the United Nations last week on a matter which is before the Committee, and which, I might say, is being studied by my Government with the close attention it deserves. The question raised in my mind may also arise in the minds of some of my colleagues -- a question for clarification, really.

5. First, what is the relationship between that proposal on C and B weapons and the various proposals under negotiation in the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament? For instance, is it something which will be incorporated in our report or considered separately?

6. The other point is that in a way the very tabling of that proposal in the General Assembly of the United Nations on 19 September points to the fact -- of which I suppose not a few of us have been aware -- that the centre of gravity seems to be moving away from this table to New York and that the act of tabling it there may be just an act of realism. I know that the co-Chairmen are doing their best to arrange our proceedings in the most orderly fashion, and I would not wish in anything I say to prejudge the importance of their bilateral consultations, particularly as regards the bottom of the sea; I wish them well, I hope they will report agreement, and we would not wish to disturb that. But having regard to the important development last week the two co-Chairmen might perhaps consult and advise us as to when, while fully meeting their convenience and having regard to the importance of the discussions in which they are engaged, they will consider the transfer of our activities to the scene where apparently our Foreign Ministers are with their staffs.

7. I know that these are questions which had better not be answered off hand. It is the rather unexpected nature of the development to which I have referred that has led to this rather unexpected question. Therefore I should quite understand it if the co-Chairmen took my question under advisement and in due course gave their response.

8. The CHAIRMAN (India): I wonder whether either of the co-Chairmen wishes to speak now or whether they wish to defer giving their views on the points raised by the representative of Canada to a later occasion. I take it that they would prefer to speak on this matter on a later occasion rather than now.

The Conference decided to issue the following communiqué:

"The Conference of the Committee on Disarmament today helds its 438th plenary meeting in the Palais des Nations, Geneva, under the chairmanship of H.E. Ambassador M.A. Husain, representative of India.

"A statement was made by the representative of Canada.

"The next meeting of the Conference will be held on Thursday, 25 September 1969, at 10.30 a.m."

The meeting rose at 10.45 a.m.